Prices of anti-cancer drugs

2999. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:
SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the Unstarred Question 2043 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of anti-cancer medicines have gone up by 200 per cent despite duty concession;

(b) whether it is also a fact that prices of a number of non-scheduled drugs and medicines have gone up between 75 per cent to 200 per cent despite concession of custom duties on the intermediates going into the production of these drugs;

(c) what was the price of each before the reduction of custom duty and what is the present price;

(d) what is the percentage increase which his Ministry has noticed under DPCO, 1987 on each; and

(e) what are the details of the watch his Ministry is keeping on the increase of prices and on what basis increase in each case is justified?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (e) As per the provisions of DPCO, 1987 in case of Non-Scheduled drugs, the manufacturers themselves determine the retail prices. However, Government keeps a close watch and in[illegible] cases of abnormal incr[illegible] consequent to the concession on Custom duty/Excise Duty given on various drugs & drug intermediates, the concerned manufacturers have been advised to reduce the prices in line with the concession given in the budget.

Assessment of overcharged amounts

3000. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2041 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) whether the special team set up by his Ministry has worked out the amount due against M/s. Merind, M/s. S. G. Pharmaceuticals and M/s. Tamilnadu Dadha and if so, what is the amount due and the names of drugs in respect of which it is due and the period for which it is due;

(b) what is the quantity of the bulk drugs and the rate at which the amount has been assessed;

(c) what were the prices of the bulk drugs before revision and what were the prices fixed after revision in respect of each bulk drug; and

(d) when were the prices of formulation based on these bulk drugs fixed under DPCO, 1979/1987 and when were these prices implemented and what was the price of each pack from April, 1979 to the date of implementation of prices?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) The team has not yet submitted its Report in respect of these companies.

Implementation of prices

3001. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2044 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) the basis on which his Ministry have come to the conclusion that the manufacturers involved in Supreme Court litigation have implemented the prices; and

(b) what were the prices fixed under DPCO, 1979 when were these prices fixed and when were these prices implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Information, to the extent available, will be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

(b) The details of prices fixed in respect of drugs involved in the Supreme Court case are quite voluminous. The time and efforts required for collection of these details would be incommensurate with the results likey to be achieved.

Representations against the fixed prices

3002. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2041 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) how many representations against the prices of bulk drugs and formulations fixed in 1987 and 1988 were received;

(b) how many of these representations have been processed and decided so far and what institutional arrangements have been evolved to dispose of such representations;

(c) what is the average time taken in disposing of the representations; and

(d) what are the names of bulk drugs and formulations for which prices were revised after representations and the names of those bulk drugs and formulations for which representations were rejected without any revision in prices?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) As the prices of a large number of bulk drugs and formulations were fixed during the years 1987 and 1988, representations/review petitions have been received from many companies in respect of various price fixations. All efforts are made to dispose of the pending cases (review petitions) as quickly as possible.

Multivitamin case

3003. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2068 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has filed an appeal in a bench of the Bombay High Court against the judgement of a single judge in respect of multivitamin cases;

(b) if so, when this appeal was filed and what is its status now;

(c) whether it is a fact that certain parties have withdrawn their cases at the instance of his Ministry;

(d) whether it is a fact that M/s. Pfizer gave an undertaking to his Ministry; if so, what are the contents of the undertaking;

(e) whether it is also a fact that certain companies sold vitamin formulations at prices even higher than those to which they were entitled even with 100 per cent MAPE adjustment;

(f) whether his Ministry has worked out unintended benefit; and

(g) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) Government had filed an appeal in the year 1987 against the Judgement of the Bombay High Court dated 23-3-87 in the case of M/s. Sandoz (India) Ltd. and dated 6-4-87 in the case of M/s. Pfizer Ltd. and M/s. Abbott Labs. (India) Ltd. The appeal was allowed by the High Court in the case of M/s. Sandoz (India) Ltd., on 23-9-1987 and the judgement dated 23-3-87 was quashed and set aside. In other two cases, the concerned companies have subsequently withdrawn the writ petitions filed by them. M/s. Pfizer had also expressed their willingness to implement the revised prices